



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

Juvenile Reentry Task Force/JReS Minutes of Meeting

Polk County River Place
2309 Euclid Avenue, Room 2
Des Moines, Iowa
May 17, 2016

Present: Ralph Allbee; Jesse Behrends; Amy Carpenter; Debbie Craig; DeAnn Decker; Jackie Gray; Torrence H.; Janet Huff; Mary Jackson; Karen Jones; Eric Kool; Carl Kruger; Shebani M.; Steve Miller; Mike Mitchell; Mindy Norwood; Carrie Phelps; Ryan Santi; David Schmiedt; Mack Shelley; Beth Skinner for Lettie Prell; Joan VandenBerg; Kathy Vrieze; Susan Walkup; Cara Weis; Doug Wolfe

Staff: Dave Kuker; Julie Rinker; Laura Roeder-Grubb; Jeff Regula

Others: Mike Boatman, Jackie Horsfall, Roxann Scheffertness, Iowa Department of Corrections

- **Call to Order, Welcome/Introductions**

In the absence of Steve Michael, Laura Roeder-Grubb called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made. Task force membership was expanded to include representatives from group care.

- **Minutes – March 17th Meeting**

Carl Kruger moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting, seconded by Ralph Allbee. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Feedback, Council of State Governments Justice Center**

Dave Kuker referenced handouts related to targeted and completed activities. He encouraged new members to review progress. A variety of practices and policies will be piloted in three judicial districts related to risk assessment, case planning, education, job skills, medication management, and Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT). Some efforts will be accomplished through the Youth Transition Decision Making model. Today's meeting will focus on the development of policies and procedures.

A site visit was held in March by representatives from the Council of State Governments Justice Center. A summary of the visit was included in the meeting packet.

Mack Shelley, Iowa State University, will serve as the project evaluator and will review progress, accountability, effectiveness, fidelity, and impact on recidivism.

- **Update from Subcommittee Chairs**

- **Updated Action Plan**
- **Implementation Progress**
- **CSG Exercise**

- **Services—Mary Jackson, Ralph Allbee, Kathy Vrieze**

- *Employment/Career exploration/Skill Development*—Voc Rehab and State Training School (STS) staff have met to implement procedures and review curriculum in collaboration with Workforce Development. Once additional staff are hired, Voc Rehab representatives will conduct weekly visits at the STS.
- *Title XIX*—Efforts are underway to coordinate/implement procedures to expedite Title XIX re-enrollment so youth exit with medication.
- *WIOA*—Workforce staff from Des Moines and Waterloo are working with STS youth from those areas regarding employment opportunities. Challenges surround the lack of statewide uniformity.
- *YTDM*—Kathy Vrieze provided an overview of the process—voluntary, youth-centered, youth-driven meetings focus on needs, strengths, and dreams. A variety of areas are covered—housing, education, employment, health, civic engagement, life skills, and supportive relationships. Short-term goals are developed. Successes are celebrated. A total of 3-4 meetings are held (before and after discharge) that include adults chosen by the youth. Nothing goes in the plan without youth agreement. The goal is to provide services to every STS student. For now, the effort is being piloted for STS youth from the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th judicial districts.
- *MDFT*—Funds are available, contracts are being developed with Youth & Shelter Services. Family reunification is the goal. The six-month program will be piloted in districts 2 and 5 beginning in June. The first session will begin during the last month of stay at the STS and continue five months in the community.

- **Assessment/Planning—Eric Kool**

- *Risk Assessment/Case Planning*—starting to develop statewide policies relating to risk assessment and case planning based on delinquency risk factors. Challenges include that there are eight independent judicial districts. Meetings have been held and agreement has been reached on assessments for risk, needs, and case plans. Written policies should be available by mid-June. Other efforts are related to software enhancements in the Iowa Courts Information System (ICIS), meetings have been held to develop a preliminary list and prioritize.
- *IDA Re-validation*—CJJP has entered an agreement to re-validate both the short and long form Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA). Trying to make it an easier and faster process. Information should be available late summer.

- **Education—Susan Walkup, Joan VandenBerg**

- Developed a survey of Iowa Code §280.29 which relates to the transfer of records

- and enrollment. As the Department of Education moves forward, will require a liaison/transition planning specialist—a position description is being developed.
 - A ‘tool kit’ is being developed to include policies, procedures, and data collection related to foster care, race, ethnicity, gender, transfer of records, gaps in enrollment, etc.
 - Coordinating YTDM case plans with JCS and DHS; would like to develop a checklist/online form.
 - Consideration is being given to cross-systems professional development for the pilot sites in Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, and Iowa City.
 - The Attorney General’s office is providing an opinion on data sharing.
- **Break Into Subcommittees – Policy, Procedures for Implementation-Submit to CSG in JUNE**
 - **Major Activities – Performance Measures/Outcomes/MOUs/Start Dates**
 - **Policy Status Update**
 - **Next steps for Implementation and Timelines (short term/long term)**
 - **Subcommittee reports - Large Group Discussion - Subcommittee Chairs**

The task for the remainder of the meeting was for committees to describe/document processes between JCS, DHS, and the STS for sustainability. Eventually, checklists and policies will be in place. The following reports were given:

 - **Education**—The survey regarding current practice based on Iowa Code §280.29 will be sent in the next two weeks to superintendents in 15 targeted school districts. Pilots will be conducted in Judicial Districts 2, 3, and 5.
 - **Assessment/Planning**—Developed a referral guide and checklist for JCS outlining placement, pre-/post-discharge steps based on area of responsibility which includes the other entities involved.
 - **Services**—Focused on YTDM procedures, making sure student support can be available for up to a year or longer. Don’t want to narrow to only MDFTs, but available for private provider programs. Information will be shared with other subcommittee members. Next month will write Title XIX descriptions, time frames, and identify agency contacts.
 - **Kickoff Event**—Roeder-Grubb reported that no date has been set.
 - **Next meeting**

The group agreed to meet in July. The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker, Administrative Secretary,
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning
Iowa Department of Human Rights